English service. We have pardoned fifty in this and the last war, under similar circumstances; nay, we have forgiven all the Americans, and were they not English subjects ?

I made use of these arguments, and urged the absurdity of a law which must have more exceptions than rules; for what becomes of emigrants' children born in England, if ever they hereafter serve against us on returning to the country where their property lies ?

I also mentioned that if Long suffered, it was probable retaliation might ensue.

How could this statement offend? But I will bear all very patiently, and if I am recalled, shall return to my plough with the satisfaction of having done my duty. Perhaps, as the negotiations are begun, and the prisoners likely soon to be released from all parts of France, my presence here will become less necessary.

Fontainebleau September 11th, 1797.

I have not written lately, for reasons which you will have learnt from the public papers.[1]

[1] On the 4th of September a revolt had

taken place,
from a conspiracy for restoring royalty being
found out,